

Two New Oribatid Mites of the Family Malaconothridae  
in Wakayama Prefecture, Central Japan  
(Acari: Oribatei)

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コナダニモドキ科の2新種

**Abstract** Two new species belonging to the genera *Malaconothrus* BERLESE, 1904 and *Trimalaconothrus* BERLESE, 1916 were described from surface soil and moss in Wakayama Prefecture. *Malaconothrus kiiensis* sp. nov. is very similar to *Malaconothrus yamamotoi* AOKI, 1994 from Central Japan and *Malaconothrus variosetosus* HAMMER, 1971 from Fiji, but is distinguishable from them by large body size, barbed lamellar seta and long lamellar and interlamellar setae. *Trimalaconothrus magnilamellatus* sp. nov. is similar to *Trimalaconothrus australis* HAMMER, 1958 from South America in having conspicuously developed S-shaped lamellar ridges, but is distinguishable from the latter by small body size, long notogastral setae  $c_1$  and  $c_2$ , partly barbed notogastral setae, barbed epimeral setae and eight genital setae.

Three species of the genus *Malaconothrus* and eight species of the genus *Trimalaconothrus* belonging to the family Malaconothridae have been reported from Japan. The present paper deals with two additional new species, *Malaconothrus kiiensis* sp. nov. and *Trimalaconothrus magnilamellatus* sp. nov., which were collected from wet surface soil and wet moss in an evergreen broad-leaved forest at Kii Peninsula, in Wakayama Prefecture, Central Japan.

*Malaconothrus kiiensis* sp. nov.  
(Figs. 1–8)

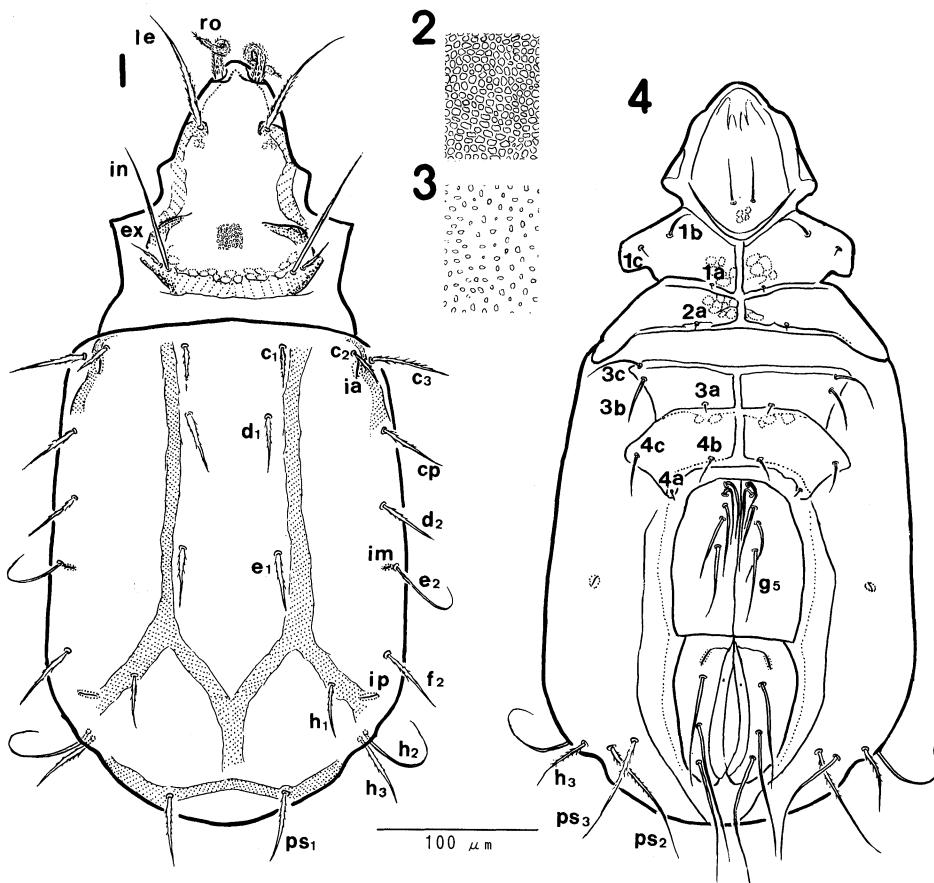
**Measurement:** Body length 405 (447) 470  $\mu\text{m}$ ; width 195 (224) 255  $\mu\text{m}$ .

**Prodorsum:** Rostrum narrow and rounded anteriorly. Pedotectum I well marked, strongly projecting and pointed. Lamellar ridge inconspicuous. A weak transverse ridge situated just behind interlamellar setae. Rostral seta thick, long, twisted and strongly barbed. The tip suddenly attenuating. Lamellar seta and exobothridial seta barbed. Interlamellar seta smooth and thin. Relative lengths and mutual distances of prodorsal setae as follows:  $le \geq in > ro > ex$ ;  $ro > (ro-ro)$ ;  $le > (le-le)$ ;  $in = (in-in)$ ;  $ex < (ex-ex)$ . Some light spots found between interlamellar setae. Integument of prodorsum showing a fine network.

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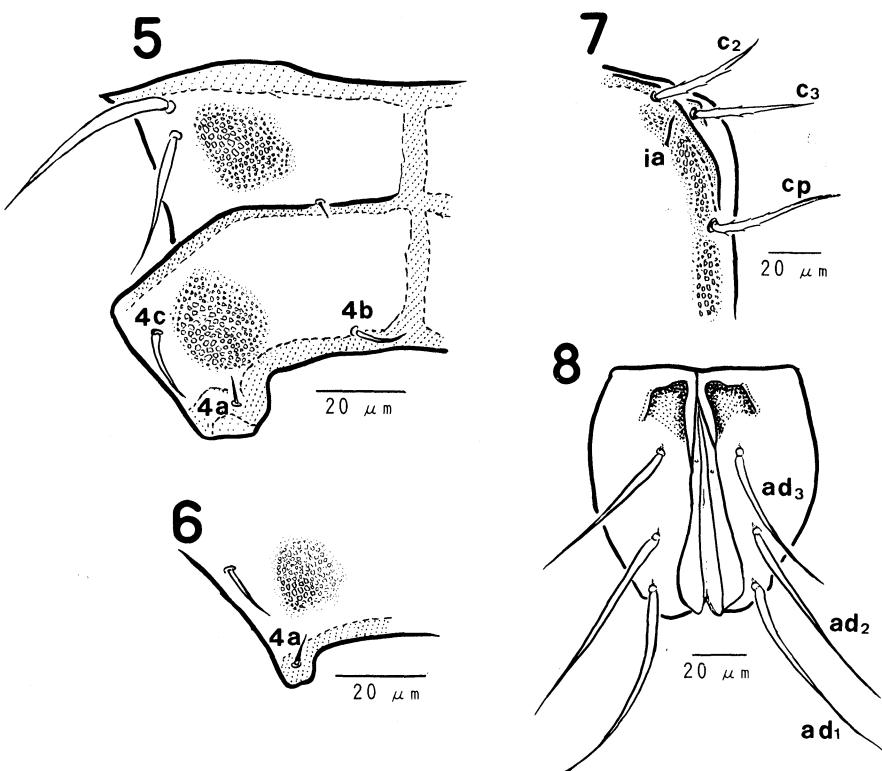
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Figs. 1-4. *Malaconothrus kiiensis* sp. nov. — 1. Dorsal view. 2. Integument of prodorsum and lateral margin of notogaster. 3. Median part of notogastral integument. 4. Ventral view.

**Notogaster:** Shield-shaped; anterior margin of notogaster straight; lateral margins almost parallel. Notogastral setae  $c_1$ ,  $c_2$ ,  $c_3$ ,  $cp$ ,  $d_1$ ,  $d_2$ ,  $e_1$ ,  $f_1$ ,  $h_1$ ,  $h_3$ ,  $ps_1$  and  $ps_3$  barbed; the other setae  $e_2$ ,  $h_2$  and  $ps_2$  smooth and thin. Relative lengths and mutual distances of notogastral setae as follows:  $ps_2 = h_2 \geq ps_3 > e_2 > c_3 > h_3 > cp = f_1 = ps_1 > d_2 > d_1 = e_1 = h_1 > c_1 = c_2$ ;  $(h_1 - h_2) > (e_1 - e_2) \approx (c_1 - c_2) > (d_1 - d_2)$ ;  $(h_1 - h_2) \geq 2 \times (c_1 - c_2)$ . Notogaster provided with some distinct dorsal ridges; the short lateral ridges situated in humeral part on each side, starting from between setae  $c_2$  and  $c_3$ , running posteriorly toward seta  $cp$ ; the median ridges parallel, running along and just outside setae  $c_1$ ,  $d_1$ , and  $e_1$ , bifurcating posteriorly, partly extending lateroposteriorly including seta  $h_1$  and lyrifissur  $ip$ , partly extending medioposteriorly and uniting, medially to form a Y-shaped ridge; the posterior transverse ridge weakly undulating and bearing setae  $ps_1$ . Integument of notogaster finely foveolate.

**Ventral side:** Anogenital chaetotaxy 5-0-1-3. Genital plate provided with 5



Figs. 5-8. *Malacothrus kiiensis* sp. nov. —— 5. Epimerata III and IV. 6. Variation of edge of epimeron IV. 7. Anterolateral part of notogaster. 8. Anal plate.

smooth and long setae; distance of them as follows:  $(g_1-g_2) \asymp (g_2-g_3) \leq (g_3-g_4) < (g_4-g_5)$ :  $(g_4-g_5)=2.3 \times (g_1-g_2)$ . Anal plate provided with 1 minute hardly visible seta situated at the level of  $ad_3$ . Adanal plate provided with 3 long setae. Setal formula of epimerata: 3-1-3-3; all epimeral seta smooth, thin and variable in length;  $3b$  and  $3c$  longest,  $1b$ ,  $4b$  and  $4c$  moderately long and the remainder very minute. Some light spots found on median part of epimera I and II. Integument of epimera partly small network.

**Material examined:** Holotype (NSMT-Ac 10727) and 5 paratypes (NSMT-Ac 10728-10732), wet surface soil from an evergreen broad-leaved forest (*Quercus salicina*, *Myrsinaceguinii*, etc.), near the bottom of Kotonotaki Waterfall in Susami-cho, Wakayama Prefecture. 26-X-1992. Y. YAMAMOTO. The holotype and 5 paratypes are deposited in the collection of National Science Museum, Tokyo.

**Remarks:** The present species is very similar to *Malacothrus yamamotoi* AOKI, 1994 and *Malacothrus variosetosus* HAMMER, 1971, but is distinguishable from them by the characters shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Differential characters of the three related species of the genus *Malacothrus*.

	<i>M. variosetosus</i> HAMMER, 1971	<i>M. yamamotoi</i> AOKI, 1994	<i>M. kiiensis</i> sp. nov.
Body length	300 $\mu\text{m}$	398 (407) 420 $\mu\text{m}$	405 (447) 470 $\mu\text{m}$
Body width	149 $\mu\text{m}$	180 (185) 195 $\mu\text{m}$	195 (224) 255 $\mu\text{m}$
Pedotectum I	angular	rounded	strongly angular
Length of lamellar seta	0.6 $\times$ ( <i>le-le</i> )*	0.8 $\times$ ( <i>le-le</i> )*	1.9 $\times$ ( <i>le-le</i> )
Length of interlamellar seta	0.4 $\times$ ( <i>in-in</i> )*	0.7 $\times$ ( <i>in-in</i> )*	1.0 $\times$ ( <i>in-in</i> )
Shape of lamellar seta	smooth	smooth	barbed
Notogastral setae	partly smooth ( <i>e<sub>2</sub>, h<sub>1</sub>, h<sub>2</sub>, ps<sub>3</sub></i> )	smooth	partly smooth ( <i>e<sub>2</sub>, h<sub>2</sub></i> )
The number of genital setae	6 pairs	5 pairs	5 pairs
Locality	Fiji	Japan	Japan

\* Measurements were taken from the figures by HAMMER (1971) and AOKI (1994).

***Trimalacothrus magnilamellatus* sp. nov.**  
(Figs. 9-15)

**Measurement:** Body length 635 (679) 710  $\mu\text{m}$ ; width 355 (385) 410  $\mu\text{m}$ .

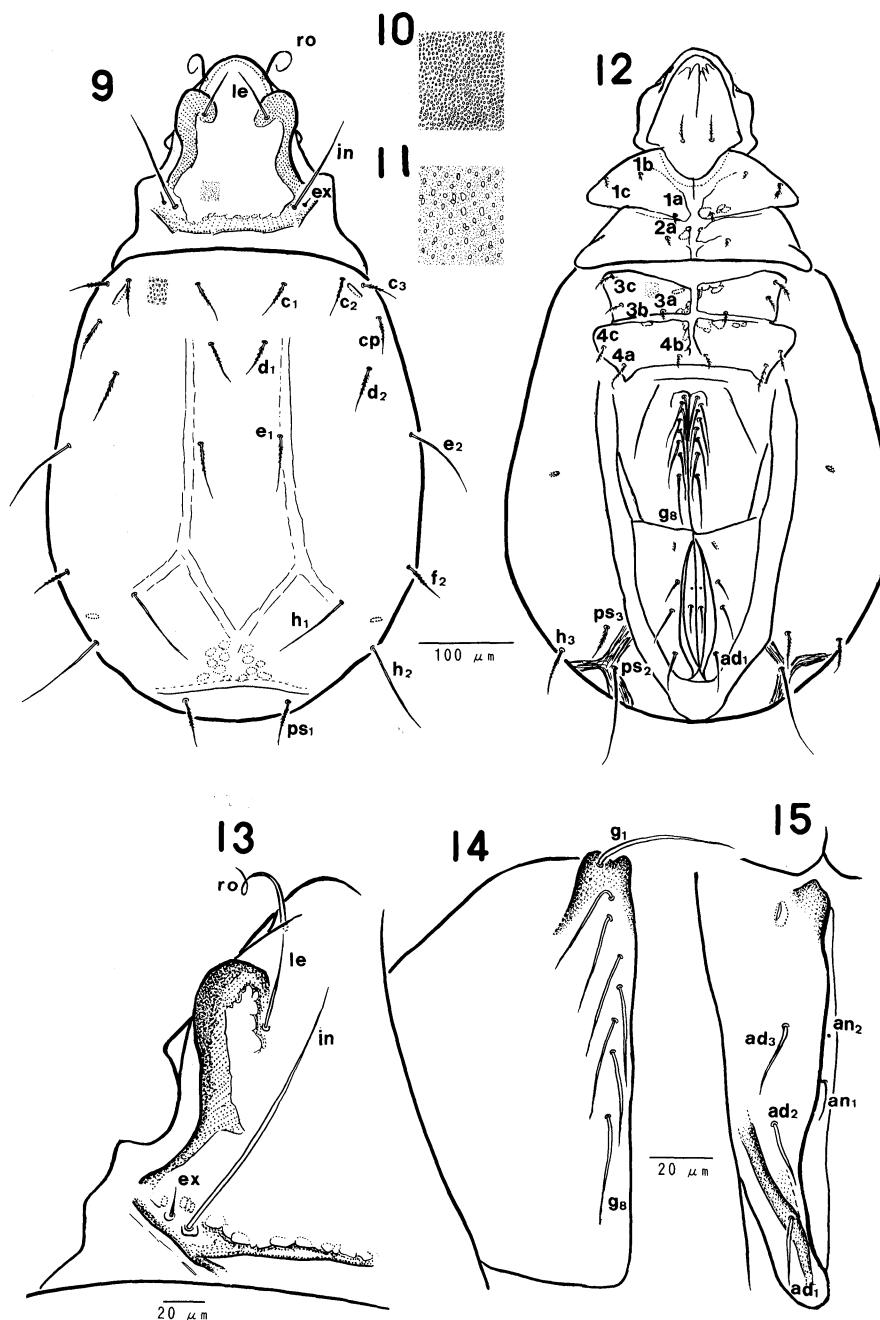
**Prodorsum:** Rostrum broadly rounded. Pedotectum I obtuse, rather rounded. Lamellar ridge S-shaped and very conspicuous. A weak transverse ridge situated between interlamellar setae. All prodorsal setae smooth and thin; rostral seta strongly curled; exobothridial seta very short; relative length and mutual distances of them as follows: *in* > *ro* > *le* > *ex*; *ro* > (*ro-ro*); *le* = (*le-le*); *in* < (*in-in*); *ex* < (*ex-ex*). Integument of prodorsum minutely punctured.

**Notogaster:** Lateral side of notogaster gently swollen. Notogastral setae *c<sub>1</sub>*, *c<sub>2</sub>*, *c<sub>3</sub>*, *cp*, *d<sub>1</sub>*, *d<sub>2</sub>*, *e<sub>1</sub>*, *f<sub>2</sub>*, *h<sub>3</sub>*, *ps<sub>1</sub>* and *ps<sub>3</sub>* weakly barbed; the remaining setae *e<sub>2</sub>*, *h<sub>1</sub>*, *h<sub>2</sub>* and *ps<sub>2</sub>* smooth and thin. Relative lengths and mutual distances of notogastral setae as follows: *h<sub>2</sub>* = *ps<sub>2</sub>* > *e<sub>2</sub>* = *h<sub>1</sub>* > *d<sub>2</sub>* = *e<sub>1</sub>* > *f<sub>2</sub>* = *ps<sub>1</sub>* > *c<sub>1</sub>* = *c<sub>2</sub>* = *c<sub>3</sub>* = *cp* = *d<sub>1</sub>* = *ps<sub>3</sub>* = *h<sub>3</sub>*; (*h<sub>1</sub>-h<sub>1</sub>*) > (*c<sub>1</sub>-c<sub>1</sub>*) = (*e<sub>1</sub>-e<sub>1</sub>*) > (*d<sub>1</sub>-d<sub>1</sub>*); (*h<sub>1</sub>-h<sub>1</sub>*) = 2.4  $\times$  (*c<sub>1</sub>-c<sub>1</sub>*). Notogaster provided with parallel ridges running along and outside seta *d<sub>1</sub>* and *e<sub>1</sub>*, bifurcating posteriorly, partly extending lateroposteriorly almost reaching seta *h<sub>1</sub>*, partly extending medioposteriorly and uniting to form a V-shaped ridge; another transverse ridge found near the posterior end of notogaster just in front of setae *ps<sub>1</sub>*, where notogaster shows a deep concavity. Some light spots found in posterior part of notogaster. Integument of notogaster finely foveolate.

**Ventral side:** Anogenital chaetotaxy 8-0-2-3. Anal plate provided with 2 setae; *an<sub>2</sub>* minute, hardly visible situated at a level a little posterior to *ad<sub>3</sub>*; *an<sub>1</sub>* very conspicuous, as long as *ad<sub>3</sub>*, situated at the same level of *ad<sub>2</sub>*. Adanal plate provided with 3 setae. Genital plate provided with 8 long setae. All epimera separated. Setal formula of epimera: 3-1-3-3. All epimeral setae barbed and variable in length; *4a* longest, *3b*, *3c* and *4c* moderately long and the remainder very minute. Some light spots found in median part of epimera I-IV. Integument of epimera minutely punctured. Legs tridactyle; median claw shorter and thicker than the laterals.

**Material examined:** Holotype (NSMT-Ac 10733) and 5 paratypes (NSMT-Ac 10734-10738), from very wet moss near mountain stream in Ryujin-mura, Wakayama Prefecture. 28-III-1994, Y. YAMAMOTO. The holotype and 5 paratypes are deposited in the collection of National Science Museum, Tokyo.

**Remarks:** The present species is very similar to *Trimalacothrus australis*



Figs. 9-15. *Trimalaconothrus magnilamellatus* sp. nov. — 9. Dorsal view. 10. Integument of prodorsum. 11. Integument of notogaster. 12. Ventral view. 13. Prodorsum. 14. Genital plate. 15. Anal plate.

HAMMER, 1958 from Andes Mountains in Argentine and Bolivia, having conspicuous S-shaped lamellar ridges, but is distinguishable from this by 1) small body size, 2) notogastral setae partly barbed, 3) notogastral setae  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  long, 4) epimeral setae barbed, 5) genital plates with 8 pairs setae.

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### 摘要

和歌山県西牟婁郡すさみ町の琴の滝、滝壺周辺の照葉樹林下の湿った腐植土と、日高郡竜神村の溪流の近くに生育している非常に湿ったコケ類から、コナダニモドキ科の2新種を発見し、キイコナダニモドキ（新称）*Malacothrus kiiensis* sp. nov., およびケタブトコナダニモドキ（新称）*Trimalaconothrus magnilamellatus* sp. nov. と命名し記載した。前者は HAMMERが 1971 年にフィジー諸島から報告している *Malacothrus variosetosus* と AOKIが 1994 年に箱根原生花園から報告しているヨシノリコナダニモドキ *Malacothrus yamamotoi* に似ているものの、体が大きく、桁毛と桁間毛が長く、桁毛には毛羽がある点において相違しており新種とした。また、後者は HAMMERが 1958 年にアルゼンチン、ボリビアのアンデス山脈から報告している *Trimalaconothrus australis* に似ているものの、体が小さく、胴背毛の一部が毛羽だっており、 $C_1$ ,  $C_2$  が長く、基節板毛も毛羽だっており、性扉毛の数も 8 本と多いため新種とした。

### References

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